



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009

No. 178

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR of Arizona).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 3, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ED PASTOR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

In You, Lord, is found the fullness of life and love. No wonder then, the human heart always longs for more. We seek You, Lord, sometimes without knowing it.

Lord, our God, people within our borders, within this Chamber, pray for this Nation. Others around the world pray for the United States of America as well. So many see our potential for good, for doing the right thing in the search for justice and peace. They long for our success.

Answer the longing of Your people, Lord. Draw closer to us. Help us realize the promise You have placed within us. Not by our words alone, but by our actions, reveal us as Your people of promise who give You glory both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SIREs led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 10 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REGULATING WALL STREET

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, a year ago, as a result of 8 years of mismanagement of Wall Street, our financial system was on the brink of collapse. Over

the past year, this Congress and President Obama have made the tough choices and taken the necessary steps to bring back our economy from the verge of disaster. In order to continue to protect consumers, create jobs, and grow our economy, our next step must be to enact comprehensive financial regulatory reform; for history has shown, we cannot rely on Wall Street to regulate itself.

In the coming weeks, we must work to pass our commonsense rules to guarantee that taxpayers are never again on the hook for Wall Street's risky decisions, the financial savings of our families and businesses are protected from unnecessary risks by lenders and speculators, consumers must be protected from predatory lending practices, and transparency and accountability are injected into our financial system.

I look forward to ensuring that our hardworking families and small businesses will no longer be hurt nor our economy jeopardized due to an unregulated financial system.

JOBS SUMMIT SHOULD ADDRESS "STOLEN" JOBS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today the President is hosting a jobs summit. But he is ignoring the 8 million jobs held by those in the country illegally that should go to American workers. With a 10 percent unemployment rate, the President should put the interests of Americans first.

While the administration ignores the 8 million stolen jobs, Republicans hold the lead in voter trust on immigration with a 12-point lead over the Democrats. That's nearly double the GOP's lead a month ago.

We should hold the administration accountable for its failure to enforce

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H13469